Barnwell (as it is said) from its being the resort of children, who performed certain childish ceremonies there on the eve of the Nativity, and of St. John the Baptist. On this site, where there had been a hermitage and an oratory dedicated to St. Andrew, he built a new monastery on a larger scale, dedicating it to St. Giles and St. Andrew; hither he removed the canons from their small cell near the castle (of which some ruins were visible in Leland's time), and intended to increase their number to thirty (that being his age), but died before he had made a sufficient endowment. The Peerbes, who inherited the barony of Bourn, were great benefactors to this convent. In 1284 Sir Gilbert Peerbe gave the patronage to King Edward I. In 1267 a part of the convent was destroyed by fire:[1] at the dissolution its revenues were rated at 256l. 10s. 11½d. clear yearly value. The site was granted successively to Sir Antony Browne, Edward Lord Clinton, and Thomas Wendy, M.D., and John Wendy (son of Thomas) was seised of it in 1559, It was afterwards in the Chicheley family. In the year 1659, Sir Thomas Chicheley having conveyed the site of Barnwell Priory, and the estate annexed, to Neville Alexander Butler, Esq., in exchange for the manor of Orwell, it became the seat of the Butler family. After the death of the late Jacob Butler, Esq., which happened in 1765, the estate was sold to Thomas Panton, Esq. There are some crypts, &c., of the ancient building still remaining.¶

I cannot imagine how "W. W." could have made this most extraordinary blunder: he states the name of the founder of the priory and the date of its foundation; and, by way of history thereof, adds a brief statement of facts relative to the *hospital*.

At the end he states that "in 1391 Robert Takell, then custos, died, and Fordham, Bishop of Ely, granted forty days' indulgence to all who assisted in the repairs of this chapel, or extended their charitable benevolence to the hospital."

I cannot find any authority for this assertion. Bakir (MS. xiii. 206) mentions that an indulgence was granted by the Bishop of Ely in 1392 to such as should relieve the brethren and sisters of the house of lepers or hospital of St. Anthony and Elgins.

I presume that "W. W." has misunderstood this, and that he supposes the indulgence to relate to the Hospital of Lepers at Stourbridge. If this is not the case, perhaps he will oblige me by naming his authority.

I am, Mr. Editor, Yours obediently,

C. J. Hevr.

Cambridge, Eve of St. Lukes, 1843.

¶ Leland's Collectanea, vol. i. p. 443.

DR. DRAKE'S NEW MOTIVE POWER.

Sir,—I confess to having been very much struck with the feasibleness of the "New Motive Power" of Dr. Drake, referred to in your last BUILDER. It is there stated that "the motion is created by the combustion within the cylinder of atmospheric air combined with a certain proportion of gas, *which is ignited by a process known only to the inventor.*" Will not the secret be exploded whenever we contemplate the effects of the electro-magnetic or of the galvanic battery? The project reminds one of "Brown's gas vacuum engine;" but science has made rapid strides since then, and the notion now assumes a more tangible shape. It appears to me to be more than probable that the sources for the "combustible" will be animal or vegetable matter, because coals yield too much sulphurous gas to be compatible with the polished surface of the working cylinder. The proposition most certainly deserves attention, where so much economy is apparent.

Yours respectfully, W. E. Gill.

St. Mathew's-place, Hackney-road.

P.S.—Whenever such a project is carried out, then a few casks of oil may be found to supplant the cumbersome freight of coals, whilst space would be greatly economized also in the engine itself.

TO KILL BLACK BEETLES.—NO. I.

Sir,—My husband, who is in the bricklaying line, was a-readin THE BILDER last Sunday mornin, when he sez to me, sez he, "I say Bet, here's a chap as wants to know how to kill black beadles; cant you rite a line to tell un how you got rid of the varmint?" "Well, sez I, Bill, I'll try." And this is how it was, Mr. Headeater. We has a back kitchen and a attick, for which we pays a matter of four shillins a week besides the other occipants, these nasty black bradies, which wouldn't go no how. Well, what do you think I does?—Why, I takes a puddin basin, the very identicle one what I uses for my Bill's Sunday puddin—but that's no matter—and I puts a little water in it, and puts it nere the fireplace at night, and piles up the ashes all around it so as just to cum to the edge of the basin. So the nasty black bradies gets a crawlin up the ashes till they gets to the edge, when in they drops, and the very next mornin my old man counted out eighty-two out of one little basin, and he digs a hole in the garden and berries them.

In five mornins we catched more than 300; and if I'd had more nor one puddin basin, I am certain sure I could have catched many more.

My old man thot of takin out a paten for the discovery, but on second thoughts sends it to THE BILDER, hopin you'll forgive all errurs.

16 Oct. Betsy.

BLACK BEETLES.—NO. II.

Sir,—In your last number, "M. L. B." wishes to know a remedy against the accumulation of black beetles. Let him get a hedgehog and place it where they are most numerous, and in a month he will not find a beetle in the house.

Yours truly,

G. B.

Tenders.

Tenders delivered for building house and stabling for Messrs. Bellingham and Co., Great Cambridge-street, Hackney-road.—Mr. Thomas Ward, Surveyor, 95, Kingsland-road.

	House.	Stabling.	Total.
Wilkinson..	£721 9 0	£488	£1,212 9 0
Webb.....	996 0 0	498	1,494 0 0
Threadgold..	940 10 0	554	1,494 10 0
Wood.....	936 0 0	671	1,647 0 0
Wythe....	1,110 0 0	551	1,661 0 0
Jay.....	993 0 0	722	1,715 0 0

The tenders were opened in the presence of the several parties, and Wilkinson's accepted.

Tender for the erection of a shop, &c. for Mr. Wheeler, at 29, Frederick-place, Hampstead-road. Mr. Waller, Surveyor.

Mosson	£173 10 0
Dunsmore	167 10 0
Airey and Bellingham.....	165 10 0

No quantities furnished. Contract 12th October, 1843.

NOTICES OF CONTRACTS.

The following contracts are advertised in different papers, and we have kept a register of the particulars of each at the office, which may be referred to on application. In the continuation of this plan, which we flatter ourselves will be of service to our readers, material assistance will be rendered by the forwarding of papers from our country friends, or by any other means of notification of which they may choose to avail themselves.

Building a sewer, Bridgewater-square, city.—Sewers Office, Guildhall.—Joseph Daw, Prin. Clerk. October 24, 1843.

Constructing a sewer, Hinxt's-court, Blackfriars. Sewers Office, Guildhall.—Joseph Daw, Prin. Clerk. October 24, 1843.

Erecting a new gallery in a chapel at Houghton, Huntingdonshire, re-roofing, repairing, and painting cottages, &c. in same village.—Messrs. Abbott and Habershon, architects, St. Neots; Mr. Potts Brown, Houghton. Oct. 27, 1843.

Adding to and altering St. Andrew's Church, Upton-cum-Chalvey, Bucks.—Ed. Davis, Esq., architect, Sussex-place, Slough; William Beauchamp, Esq., churchwarden, Slough. Nov. 1, 1843.

Building an hotel and offices, on ground occupied as Banff Hotel.—Edw. Mortimer, Esq., solicitor, Banff. Oct. 31.

To Bridge Builders.—New Bridge, Dairy Bank, Bursiem.—L. G. Hulse and Son, Cobridge, Staffordshire Potteries. October 23 to 28.

Survey.—Parish of Whitchurch, Devon.—Mapping and apportioning 5,000 acres.—Bridgman and Scobell, solicitors, Tavistock; or G. and J. Prillham, solicitors, Plymouth. October 25.

York and North Midland Railway.—Tenders for the supply of 5,000 tons iron rails; also 1,500 tons of iron chairs.—Company's Office, York. October 25.

Repairing Turnpike Roads, Bridgwater.—T. Symes, Clerk. October 20.

Tenders for erecting a Workhouse for the Sevenoaks Union.—Mr. Carnell, Clerk to the Guardians, Sevenoaks. November 1.

COMPETITIONS.

Design for a testimonial to the late G. Clendining, Esq., to be executed at Westport, at a price of 800 guineas.—Dr. Dillon, Infirmary, Castlebar, Mayo. 20 guineas. Jan. 1, 1844.

Premium of a gold medal or money for the best mode of cleansing streets.—March 1, 1844. J. N. G. Guild, 20, Vere-street.

TO OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

"H. W. D., Surrey Cottages."—*This communication is reserved for more deliberate consideration than we can just now bestow upon it.*

"M. Saul's" *favour will be made available in a future number.*

"O. P."—*We can appreciate the research, and much of the argument of "O. P." We may be able to give a portion, at least, of his letter next week.*

"P. T." *received.*

"A Young Student."—*We are obliged by his well intended suggestions.*

"W. H. M." *received, and under consideration.*

"D."—*His commendable effort shall be adequately seconded by us.*

"Mr. Brodum Jones" *shall be attended to.*

"G. R. W."—*Too late this week for insertion. His correction would be just as likely to mislead our printers as the thing referred to.*

"Mr. Walhem."—*We are glad to hear from him again.*

"An Old-fashioned Architect."—*We will reserve a space for him.*

"Tantum."—*We are greatly obliged by his kindness, and will thank him for the proffered aid.*

"Mr. M'Culloch."—*The matter he refers to has been the same subject of complaint here. We shall have a word to say upon it, and several competitions generally. We can get no information ourselves.*

"N. H. Kennaahare."—*We thank him, and shall insert his paper.*

"James Pickard" *next week, with some suggestions as to the proper spirit of criticism.*

"An Architect and Subscriber" *shall appear.*

"Forrester."—*His information too late for this week, but he has our thanks.*

"W. B., Tring."—*The font drawing is received and accepted with thanks.*

ADVERTISEMENTS.

COMMISSIONERS OF FINE ARTS' REPORT ON THE MEANS OF PREVENTING DAMP IN WALLS.

THE DIRECTORS of the SEYSSEL ASPHALTE COMPANY have much pleasure in recommending to the notice of Architects, Builders, and others, the application of THE ASPHALTE OF SEYSSEL as the only effectual means of preventing DAMP rising in WALLS. J. FARRELL, Secretary.

Seyssel Asphalte Company,
August, 1843. Stangate, Westminster-bridge.

The following account of its application is extracted from "The Appendix to the Commissioners of Fine Arts Report," page 18

"In 1839 I superintended the construction of a house of three stories on the Lac d'Enghien. The foundation of the building is constantly in water, about 18 inches below the level of the ground-floor. The entire horizontal surface of the external and internal walls was covered, at the level of the internal ground-floor with a layer of Seyssel Asphalte, less than half an inch thick, over which coarse sand was spread.

"Since the above date no trace of damp has shown itself round the walls of the lower story, which are for the most part painted in oil of a grey stone colour. It is well known that the least moisture produces round spots, darker or lighter, on walls so painted. Yet the pavement of the floor, resting on the soil itself, in only about 24 inches above the external surface of the soil, and only 18¼ at the utmost, above that of the sheet of water.

"The layer of Asphalte having been broken and removed, for the purpose of inserting the sills of two doors, spots indicating the presence of damp have been since remarked at the base of the door-posts."

BASTENNE BITUMEN COMPANY.
Offices, 31, Poultry.

The Directors of this Company beg leave to call the attention of merchants and shippers in general to the very beneficial results attendant on the use of Bitumen in the erection of buildings, both in this country and abroad.

1st.—In application as a flooring in malt-houses, granaries, tan-rooms of breweries, distilleries, &c. will be found eminently useful; also, in lieu of stone or brick for the basement of dwelling-house, &c. It excludes all moisture, noxious vapours from drains, rats, and vermin of all sorts; it affords a dry warm footing, and is in appearance neater than stone. It imparts not the slightest impurity to grain or any thing with which it comes in contact.

2ndly.—For the covering of railway arches, vaults, or cellars a slight coating keeps out all rain or dripping, protects the brick work, and adds solidity to the arch.

3rdly.—For roofs it is superior to any thing hitherto introduced: and on flat-roofs a tank can be made to contain rain water.

4thly.—For baths, water-tanks, the river fronts of wharfs, &c., or on the tops of walls, or any brick work, a coating of Bitumen serves all purposes to which lead, stone, and cement are now applied, with far greater effect and at much less cost. Brick work cemented with Bitumen instead of mortar is impervious to wet, far more solid, and for the same reasons as it excludes weeds and fungi.

5thly.—For the flooring of conservatories, hothouses, &c., it is eminently preferable to any other, not only for its durability and uniform neatness but from its being of an equal temperature in all seasons, and for ornamental garden-walks, impervious to weeds and fungi.

The company's prices for export are as follow:—Bitumen without grit, 6l. ; with, 4l.

Works executed in this country, ½ an inch thick, 6d. per foot square; ¾ inch thick, 7d. per foot square; 1 inch thick, 8d. per foot square.

Works not measuring 100 feet, 1d. per foot extra.

Roofing executed at 4d. and 7d. per foot square.

Concrete in charges in addition, according to thickness, when required.

Carriage and men's time are charged extra when works are executed beyond three miles from the General Post-office.

CHARLES F. TILSTONE, Secretary

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